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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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MYSURU Monday 29th December 2025
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Gone in 6 minutes! Gun-toting gang loots jewellery store in Hunsur of Gold & Diamond ornaments worth... Rs. 10 crore

The jewellery store in Hunsur that was robbed yesterday. Picture right shows the photos of four of the five suspects captured in CCTV camera.

Hunsur, Dec. 29 (RK, KK & BCT)- In a daring daylight robbery, a five-member armed gang stormed into a jewellery showroom in the heart of Hunsur town, threatened staff at gunpoint, and decamped with gold and diamond ornaments worth about Rs.10 crore.

The robbery occurred at the Sky Gold and Diamonds showroom, located behind the KSRTC bus stand on the Hunsur-Madikeri bypass road, around 2.10 pm yesterday.

Two helmet-clad youths initially entered the showroom posing as customers.

Moments later, three more masked men followed, brandishing revolvers and taking control of the premises.

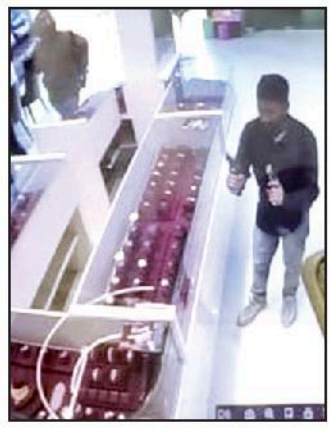
Six-minute theft

Seven employees, including five women, were forced to raise their hands as the assailants carried out the heist. While one robber stood guard, pointing revolvers with both hands, the others swiftly gathered gold and diamond ornaments weighing around 7.5 kgs in total from the display shelves and packed them into the bags they had carried. The entire operation lasted barely six minutes.

When two female employees attempted to resist, the robbers pointed their weapons at them and forced them to sit aside on chairs in a corner.

(See STORE on page 6)

CCTV team in Kerala spots live robbery, alerts manager



Mysuru, Dec. 29 (RK&BCT)- The Hunsur jewellery showroom manager was alerted to the robbery by a monitoring team in Kerala that was watching the live CCTV feed.

The store manager, Asgar, was on his lunch break between 1.30 pm and 3.30 pm. The showroom is part of a chain with four other branches in Kerala and a head office there, all linked through a centralised CCTV network that allows remote monitoring.

When five helmet-clad, armed men entered the showroom at 2.10 pm, a few customers were present inside. The CCTV monitoring team was alarmed on seeing the assailants brandishing firearms and threatening the staff and customers.

The team immediately alerted Asgar, who was unaware of the heist at the time. He rushed towards the showroom and pulled down the shutters to prevent the robbers from escaping.

However, assailants pointed their weapons at him and threatened to kill him, forcing him to retreat. The robbers then continued stuffing gold and diamond ornaments into their bags before opening the shutters and fleeing the scene.

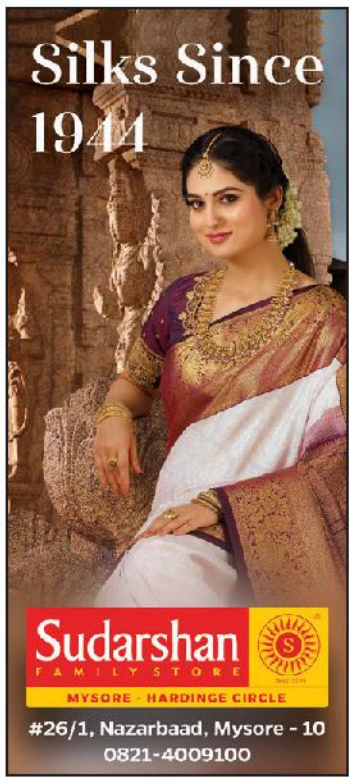
Hawkers evicted

Shops outside Mysore Palace Varaha Gate cleared

Mysuru, Dec. 29 (MTY&KS)- Following the helium cylinder blast outside Jayamarthanda Gate of Mysore Palace on Thursday night that claimed three lives and subsequent public outcry over security lapses, the city Police yesterday cleared petty shops and evicted roadside vendors near Varaha Gate of the Palace, opposite the Gun House.

A commando platoon has been stationed near Varaha Gate with strict instructions not to allow any vendor to set up stalls or conduct business in the Palace vicinity.

(See HAWKERS on page 7)



STAR OF MYSORE

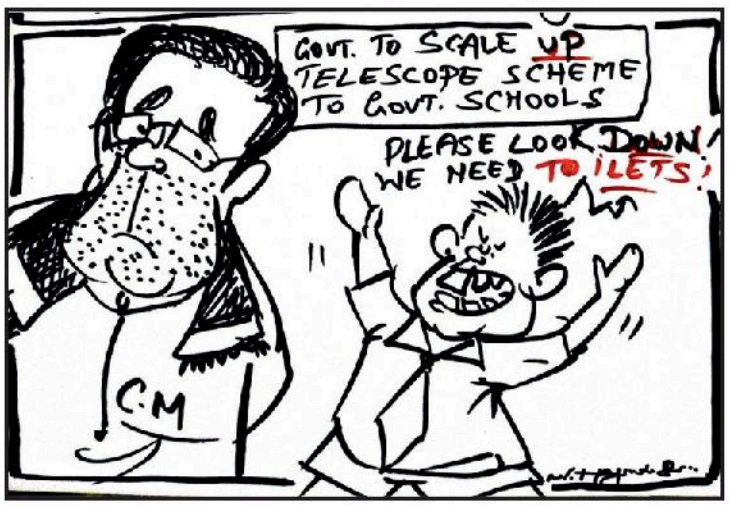
"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Monday 29th December 2025

BABU'S BANTER

By M.V. Nagendra Babu



EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

THE UNCONDITIONAL FRIENDS WE NEED:

'Animals are such agreeable friends — they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms,' said George Eliot, the writer. These words resonate with me because I am a lover of animals. Kia, my neighbour's pet, is one of them. There is nothing better than meeting her every evening when I go on my daily walk. She is overjoyed when she sees me, expecting nothing more than a few pats and a scratch under the strap that hangs over her neck. Both of us enjoy these few minutes together and I suspect I receive more from these encounters than she does. She rubs against my hand in a friendly manner, her liquid, brown eyes gazing deep into mine.

I feel blessed and walk away with great satisfaction.

Sad to say, even in this day and age, when we should know better, animals are the most badly treated of all living creatures. Just because they do not respond as human beings do, they are looked down upon and treated without mercy. Nonetheless, they have often proved better creatures than human beings. They are not only useful but also loving and loyal. Take 'seeing eye' dogs, for example. They have made living so much more tolerable for the blind. Medical opinion has it that the companionship of animals contributes a great deal to the healing process.

Just pat a dog or cat to feel a flood of relief. Your breathing becomes slower and fuller. For some minutes at least, you are rid of the worries that haunted you.

Your facial muscles relax and you smile readily. While you talk to the animal, your voice softens. You feel the softness of her fur and as your hand glides over her shoulders, your thoughts of others become gentler. Your mind quietens and becomes soothed.

When you walk away, you are suffused by a feeling of warmth and the world seems to be a better place to live in.

The poet Walt Whitman began a poem with the words, 'I think I could turn round and live with animals. They are so placid and self-contained. I stand and look at them long and long. They do not sweat and whine…' I agree with him and do hope it is the same with you!

— Leela Ramaswamy in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

Feels like driving on a knife's edge

Beijing: Daobeiliang Sky Road in Shizu, China, is considered extreme even among the most dangerous mountain roads. Although it measures only about 3 kilometres (under 2 miles) in length, some sections are barely wide enough to pass on, with a vertical drop of 600 meters on both sides.

Daobeiliang (Chinese for "back of a knife blade") was built by Wind Energy Group, a renewable energy company, in order to reach the wind turbines it installed on the edge of Qiyao Mountain. But even though it retains its original function, the so-called Sky Road has become popular among daredevils wanting to test their driving skills or simply take in the breathtaking views.

Driving on the Daobeiliang Sky Road feels like navigating a giant knife-edge, with abysses on either side. It has an average width of 5.5 meters, with some sections as narrow as 3 meters, only enough for one vehicle to pass at a time.

Liquid nitrogen leaves stomach ruptured

Moscow: An unusual incident occurred during a corporate party at the "Igra Stolov" culinary studio in Moscow, when a mixologist tried to impress the guests by chilling his cocktails with liquid nitrogen.

The now-viral video shows the unnamed man waiting for his drink, and then drinking it from a paper cup, only to instantly blow out nitrogen fumes and recoil in pain.

The man suffered a ruptured stomach as a result of ingesting the cocktail and required surgery to repair the damage. The man has since been stabilised, but the severity of his condition is still unknown.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Not All Heart Muscle Weakness Is Permanent

Reduced heart function after an event may be temporary. With timely treatment, affected muscle can regain strength over weeks.

By Dr. C.B. Keshavamurthy - Senior Consultant – Interventional Cardiology, Manipal Hospitals, Mysuru

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Wins gold in Amateur Boxing Championship

Mysuru, Dec. 29- Prajwal Shivarudrappa of PKD (Prajwal Karate Dojo), Mysuru, training under coach Darshan, clinched the gold medal at the Amateur Boxing Championship organised by Creed Boxing Promotions at Creed Combat Arena in Bengaluru recently. Prajwal secured the title with a unanimous decision victory over Amal Manoj of Kerala.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **123.82 feet**	Today's level **2,275.89 feet**	Today's level **2,828.30 feet**
Last year's level **124.53 feet**	Last year's level **2,280.37 feet**	Last year's level **2,834.33 feet**
Saturday's level **123.89 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,275.84 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,828.16 feet**
Today's Inflow **1,852 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **582 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **315 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **2,295 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- *Honeybees can recognise human faces: It might be surprising to learn that honeybees can recognise individual human faces. They do this by using their compound eyes to identify different patterns, such as the shape of a person's eyes and nose. This skill has been tested in studies where bees were trained to associate specific faces with a reward, such as a sugar solution.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Mary: *Did you hear Rani snoring in the class during the first period?*

Nisha: *Yes I did, she woke me up!?*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= **Rs. 89.93**
1 UK Pound	= **Rs. 121.28**
1 UAE Dirham	= **Rs. 24.48**
1 Euro	= **Rs. 105.72**

VOICE OF THE READER

Unsafe, risky UGD pipeline works

Sir,

This refers to the news item ***"Unsafe UGD pipeline works keep Aravinda Nagar residents wary"*** (*SOM* dated Dec. 23).

So true. Many contractors do not use safety barriers, red-and-white tape, cautionary signboards, or temporary slabs over trenches in front of residential gates.

In some places, the bridge should be wide enough for the house owner to drive a car on, as parking on the side further narrows the road width, especially with barriers on both sides of the slab (a sort of bridge or culvert).

Workers are often seen without safety shoes or hats and there is no full-time safety supervisor to stop work when safety issues are not addressed. These safety features are probably not mentioned in the tender documents.

Of course, there is also no engineer or supervisor from the MCC present at the site for the duration of the digging.

Why is it that even after 75 years of self-government, we are unable to do the right thing?

—George Rego
Mysuru
23.12.2025

Fellowship for city Professor Dr. K.N. Amruthesh

Dr. K.N. Amruthesh, former Chairman, Department of Studies in Botany, Mysuru, receiving the Fellowship from Prof. Vinod K. Singh, President, National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) as another guest looks on.

Mysuru, Dec. 29- Dr. K.N. Amruthesh, former Chairman, Department of Studies in Botany and currently the Director of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), University of Mysore (UoM), has been awarded the prestigious Fellowship of the National Academy of Sciences (FNASc) for the year 2025.

The award ceremony was held on Dec. 9 at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati, Assam.

He was conferred the Fellowship by Prof. Vinod K. Singh, President, National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI).

The award carries a Certificate, Citation, Medal and Fellowship Pin recognising his significant contributions to Agricultural and Plant Sciences.

Dr. Amruthesh is the first faculty from the Department of Botany, UoM, to receive this distinction from the NSAI, which is the country's first Science Academy, established in 1930 and supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST). It is also recognised by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Government of India. NASI recognises outstanding scientists whose work in advanced research, benefits the society.

Hailing from a rural background, Dr. Amruthesh completed his schooling in Kannada medium, making his achievement all the more inspiring. He had previously received a Fellowship of Karnataka Science and Technology Academy (FKSTA) in 2022 and Fellowship of National Academy of Biological Sciences (FNABS) in 2023 for his exceptional research in Agricultural and Plant Sciences.

President Murmu takes dived sortie onboard INS Vaghsheer

Karwar, Dec. 29 (UNI) - President Droupadi Murmu undertook her maiden submarine sortie aboard INS Vaghsheer, a state-of-the-art Kalvari-class submarine here yesterday.

Accompanied by Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, she embarked on the submarine at Karwar Naval Harbour.

During over 2-hour-long sortie, she interacted with submarine crew and witnessed operational demonstrations. Murmu became the second President to take sortie in a Submarine after President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, who embarked similar sortie aboard INS Sindhurakshak in 2006. Earlier in Nov. 2024, President Murmu had witnessed an Operational Demonstration by the Indian Navy onboard the indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant.

Later in the visitor's book, the President wrote, "It was indeed a very special experience for me to sail, dive and spend time with our sailors and officers onboard INS Vaghsheer. The multiple successful firings and challenging operations carried out by INS Vaghsheer demonstrate the crew's exceptional preparedness and dedication, in accordance with its motto 'Veerta Varchasva Vijaya'. Witnessing the discipline, confidence and enthusiasm of Vaghsheer crew assures me that our submarines and Indian Navy are combat-ready against any threat and under all circumstances."

INS Vaghsheer, the sixth and last submarine in Scorpene-class, was commissioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Jan. 15 at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai.

Vaghsheer, the sixth Scorpene-class submarine under the Kalvari-class Project 75, is one of the most silent and versatile diesel-electric submarines in the world. Built for both long-range patrols and covert underwater operations, the submarine is powered by four powerful MTU diesel engines and a strong 360-cell battery system.

Measuring about 221 feet in length, with a beam of 20 feet and a height of 40 feet, the submarine has been designed to balance compactness with combat efficiency. The submarine, crewed by eight officers and 35 sailors, is equipped with an advanced anti-torpedo defence system to enhance survivability during combat situations.

Vaikunta Ekadashi at city temples tomorrow

Mysuru, Dec. 29- ISKCON Mysuru at Jayanagar will be celebrating Vaikunta Ekadashi on Tuesday (Dec.30) with great devotion and spiritual fervour.

A Vaikunta Dwara will be specially erected at the main entrance of the temple. Devotees will be blessed with the opportunity of Vaikunta Dwara Pravesha from 7.30 am to 10 pm, continuously without any closure.

Thousands of devotees are expected to participate and seek the divine blessings of Their Lordships Sri Krishna and Balarama.

As part of the festival, Sangeeta Seva will be offered throughout the day. Several devoted vocalists and instrumental artistes will render melodious kirtans and bhajans, glorifying the Holy Names — Hare Krishna Hare Krishna, Krishna Krishna Hare Hare, Hare Rama Hare Rama, Rama Rama Hare Hare — for the pleasure of the Lord and spiritual upliftment of all attendees.

According to Vedic scriptures and teachings of great acharyas, the material world is filled with kunta — misery —where every living being is bound by birth, disease, old age, and death.

However, the human form of life is a rare opportunity to transcend these miseries and attain the eternal spiritual abode known as Vaikunta, the realm free from all suffering. The Supreme Lord mercifully invites all conditioned souls to return to this eternal abode through devotional service.

The Padma Purana states that anyone who passes through the Vaikunta Dwara on the sacred day of Vaikunta Ekadashi with faith and devotion is blessed with the attainment of Vaikunta.

All devotees may participate and receive the boundless mercy of the Lord, according to a press release from Karunyasagar Das, Vice-President, ISKCON Mysuru.

Vontikoppal Temple

As part of Vaikunta Ekadashi, Vaikunta Dwara Darshana and Prasada distribution have been arranged at Sri Lakshmi Venkataramanaswamy Temple (Vontikoppal Temple) in V.V. Mohalla from 4.30 am to 11 pm. Suprabhata will be at 4.30 am followed by Vaikunta Dwara Pravesha-Naivedya-Mahamangalarati-Teertha Prasada Viniyoga at 5.30 am.

Ganapathy Ashram

Sri Datta Venkateshwara Temple at Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Ashram on Nanjangud Road will be celebrating Vaikunta Ekadashi on Dec.30 (Tuesday).

Arrangements are made to open *Uttara Dwara* for *darshan*. To facilitate the devotees, the temple will be kept open from 5.30 am to 2.30 pm and 3 pm to 9 pm on that day.

The entrance for the devotees coming to the temple will be from the main gate of the Ashram.

NEWS BRIEFS

Coaching Classes

Jnanabuthi, located in Government High School and PU College campus, Lakshmipuram, JLB Road in city, is conducting free coaching classes for the written exam to be conducted by the Government for recruitment of Police Constables (PC) / Police Sub-Inspectors (PSI). Interested aspirants can register their names at office between 5.30 pm and 7.30 pm before Jan. 3. For details, contact Mob: 94481-17455/ 99728-30857 or 82967-88251.

Ph.D awardees

T.K. Sandeep has been awarded Ph.D in Visual Communication by the Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Mysuru, for his thesis 'A Study on the Relationship between Instagram Usage and Self-Presentation, Personality Traits, Social Anxiety among Undergraduate Students in Mysuru City' [Guide: Dr. B. Moulya].

Velleti Shylaja has been awarded Ph.D in Telugu by the Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), Mysuru, for her thesis 'Dr. G.S. Mohan Rachanalu - Parisheelana' [Guide: Prof. M. Ramanatham Naidu].

Annual Day

The 27th Annual Day celebrations of Sree Nataraja English Medium High School will be held at Sree Nataraja Auditorium tomorrow (Dec. 30) at 4 pm. Sree Nataraja Pratishtana President Sri Chidananda Swamiji will grace the occasion. BEO South Krishna will be the chief guest. University of Mysore (UoM) Finance Officer K.S. Rekha will deliver the valedictory address. Pratishtana Special Officer Prof. S. Shivarajappa will preside. Sree Nataraja High School Head Mistress H.G. Mamatha will be present on the occasion.

Obituary

Siddaraju

Hunsur, Dec. 29- Siddaraju (64), son of late Devanaika and residing next to Chamundeshwari Temple behind Kalkunike Housing Board Colony, passed away yesterday in the town.

He leaves behind his wife, two sons, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Nayaka Burial Grounds on the banks of Lakshmanatheertha River this afternoon.

Two tigers captured at same spot in 48 hours

Mysuru, Dec. 29 (MTY&KS)- A pair of tigers, which were creating havoc by raiding villagers in forest borders and killing livestock, have been captured at the same spot in a gap of within 48 hours.

Villagers of Agasanahundi, Siddapura, Kallati, G.M. Halli and Metikuppe among other villages bordering Metikuppe Range of Nagarahole Tiger Reserve in H.D. Kote taluk were witnessing the two tigers killing livestock since three to four months.

About 15 days ago, the tigers used to raid cowsheds and kill the livestock following which the Forest Department officials and staff took the issue seriously and were successful in capturing the two tigers within 48 hours.

On Friday, the villagers of Agasanahundi had staged a protest after a tiger killed a cow. The Forest staff, along with Veterinarian Dr. H. Ramesh, who rushed to the spot, stationed the Forest Department vehicle in front of the carcass, covered the vehicle with green leaves and laid in wait for the tiger to arrive.

Their wait bore fruit when the tiger, aged about six years, came to the spot to devour the carcass. When the Forest staff were ready to fire the tranquilliser dart, the tiger, sensing danger, fled from the spot and the Forest staff, deployed a thermal drone which helped them in tracking the tiger's hideout.

Soon, domesticated elephants Mahendra, Bhima and Srikanta were summoned to the spot and combing operation was started. After spotting the tiger with the help of the thermal drone, the Forest staff and the three elephants surrounded the tiger from all sides.

Dr. Ramesh, who was atop elephant Mahendra, fired a tranquilliser dart on the tiger which was hiding among the bushes.

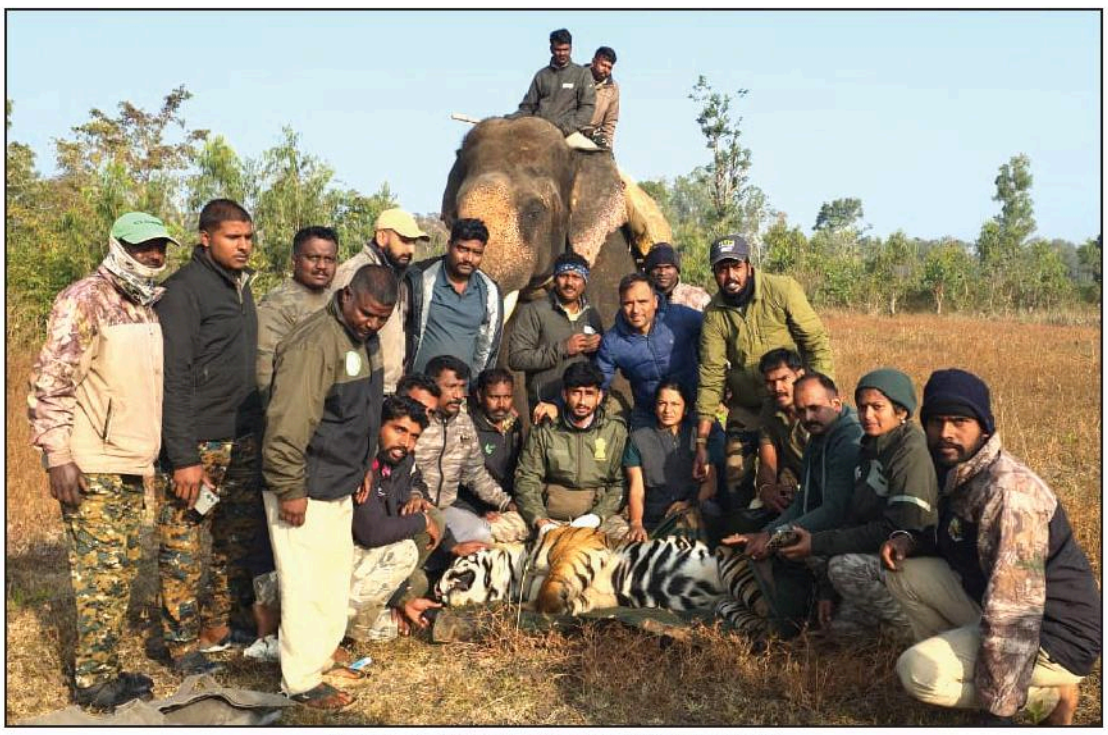
After a few minutes, when the tiger was rendered unconscious, it was secured in a net and shifted to a cage, where the Veterinarian examined the tiger and was later shifted to a safe place.

Yesterday morning, a female tiger, aged about 11 years, which walked into the 'Walk through cage' to consume the carcass of the cow, was trapped. It is said that the Forest staff had information about the presence of another tiger in the same region where the first tiger was captured.

Veterinarian Dr. Paramesh and team, who arrived at the spot, tranquillised the tigress and examined it during which he noticed that four teeth were missing which had resulted in the tigress losing its ability to hunt and hence it was raiding villages and killing livestock.

It is learnt that the tiger, which was captured on Friday, was earlier spotted in Anechowkur and Antharasanthe Ranges and since two years, it had made Metikuppe Range as its territory. But the tigress is from Metikuppe Range and had lost its ability to hunt in the forest.

Metikuppe Division Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) Madhu Devaiah, Metikuppe Range Forest Officer (RFO) Rashmi, Veterinarian Dr. Ramesh, Deputy Range Forest Officer (DRFO) Ranjan and others conducted the operation all night and successfully captured the tiger.



Forest staff with the tiger captured on Friday.

Forest staff with the female tiger captured on Sunday.

Murdered for gold

Srirangapatna, Dec. 29 (KS)- A woman, who had gone to the canal to wash clothes, has been allegedly murdered by miscreants, who have decamped with gold ornaments she was wearing.

Mamatha

The incident took place near the Varuna Canal, near a resort at Palahalli in the taluk.

The deceased woman has been identified as Mamatha (35), wife of Jagadish and a resident of Palahalli.

Yesterday at about 2 pm, Mamatha went to the canal to wash clothes and her body was found near the canal at about 3.30 pm.

A gold chain, gold *mangalya* chain and gold earrings are missing and Police have suspected that miscreants may have killed her for gold.

Srirangapatna Town Police, who have registered a case, are investigating.

Youth goes missing

Shivanayaka

Yalandur, Dec. 29- A 23-year-old youth, who had gone to Chamarajanagar to watch a movie, has gone missing since Dec. 25.

The missing youth is Shivanayaka of Changachalli village, according to the complaint lodged by his father Puttamadanayaka with the Police.

Those having any information about the missing youth may contact Mob: 94808-04649 or Chamarajanagar District Police Control Room on Ph: 08226-222383, according to a press release.

Unidentified man dies at K.R. Hospital

Mysuru, Dec. 29 (KS)- An unidentified man, aged about 60 years, who was found lying sick near Vijayanagar Ring Road traffic signal lights and admitted to K.R. Hospital on Dec. 13, has breathed his last at the hospital on Dec. 23.

The deceased has the names 'Nanjundegowdru', 'N. Manju' and 'N. Mani' tattooed in Kannada on his right arm.

The kith and kin of the deceased, if any, may contact Vijayanagar Police Station on Ph: 0821-2418317 or Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418339, according to a press release.

Drones give Cops aerial advantage

City Police get four drones for crime prevention, surveillance and crowd control

City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar tries her hand at operating one of the drones that have been allotted to Mysuru city to ensure better policing.

Mysuru, Dec. 29 (RK&BCT)- Patrolling with torches and batons is steadily giving way to technology-driven policing, with the Police Department adopting drones to strengthen law enforcement and public safety.

In the past, policing relied largely on traditional gear and manual patrols. Over the years, however, the Department has undergone gradual modernisation. Officers, who once depended only on batons, are now being equipped with advanced tools such as drone cameras to improve operational efficiency.

Recently, the State Police Department supplied four drones to the Mysuru City Police. Police Commissioner Seema Latkar inspected their functioning at her office premises in Nazarbad and instructed officers and staff to deploy them for crime prevention and detection, maintenance of law and order, and crowd management.

Officials said, drones would be particularly useful in congested areas where vehicles cannot reach and crowd monitoring becomes difficult. By providing aerial visuals of events, drones can help prevent untoward incidents. Recognising their utility, the Government has directed Police units to adopt drone technology.

So far, surveillance has largely depended on CCTV and AI-enabled cameras. The introduction of drones marks a further step forward, enabling the capture of high-resolution photographs and videos from above, offering clearer views of individuals, objects and locations.

According to officials, drones can monitor areas spread over several kilometres, helping the Police anticipate and prevent disasters. They can assist in tracking suspects fleeing crime scenes and in monitoring fire accidents, road mishaps, animal movement, group clashes and other emergencies.

Policing crowded locations such as bus stands, railway stations and markets often poses challenges. Drones allow officers to observe activities from a distance and can also help detect illegal activities such as gambling or other anti-social gatherings in secluded areas hidden by vegetation.

With the introduction of drones, the Mysuru Police aim to strengthen crime prevention, law and order, and crowd management, marking another step towards modern, technology-driven policing.

Traffic Police get Blue Peak Caps

Navy Blue Peak Caps were distributed to the Traffic Police at Krishnaraja (KR) Traffic Police Station in Mysuru this morning. Karnataka Police turned a new chapter by bidding goodbye to Slouch Hats to don Navy Blue Peak Caps with the Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwar, symbolically fixing the new style caps on the head of the Policemen, at a ceremony organised at Banquet Hall of Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Oct. 28 this year.

After 36 years...

KPCC mulls over reviving Student Union elections

Bengaluru, Dec. 29- Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) President D.K. Shivakumar (DKS) has constituted a Committee of party leaders to study the process and modalities for conducting Student Union elections in the State and to submit a report.

It's a significant development since the State Government is considering revoking a 36-year ban on student elections in the State's educational institutions, which would revive campus politics in the Southern State.

Student elections were banned in Karnataka in 1989 by the then Congress Government led by CM Veerendra Patil, reportedly in response to a series of violent incidents and clashes on college campuses.

D.K. Shivakumar, who is also the Deputy Chief Minister (Dy.CM), had spoken about the proposal during a Constitution Day event in November, stating that the reintroduction of Student Union elections would help create political leadership on campuses.

Medical Education Minister Dr. Sharan Prakash Patil has been appointed as the Convenor of the 9-Member Committee that the Dy.CM formed. The Panel also includes Higher Education Minister Dr. M.C. Sudhakar, besides MLAs, MLCs and State Presidents of Youth Congress & NSUI, the student wing of the Congress.

Shivakumar, who on several occasions recalled his own days as a student leader, stating that student politics played a key role in nurturing his political journey, said in a letter dated Dec. 27 that the Committee has been asked to submit its report within 15 days.

BUSTED!

Maharashtra Anti Narcotic Task Force raids drug manufacturing unit in Bengaluru; Contraband worth Rs. 55.88 crore seized, 3 arrested

Bengaluru, Dec. 29 (Agencies)- In a major breakthrough the Maharashtra Anti Narcotic Task Force (ANTF) busted three mephedrone manufacturing units at Spandana Layout Colony, N.G. Gollahalli in Kothanur and Yarappanahalli here on Saturday.

Acting on a tip-off, the Maharashtra Police seized contraband worth Rs. 55.88 crore, machinery, chemicals from manufacturing units which were operating in the guise of event management and warehouse companies. The Police have suspected that the drugs were being supplied to various parts of the country from these three units.

The Police arrested Suraj Ramesh Yadav and Malkhan Ramlal Bishnoi, both from Rajasthan, and Prashanth Yallappa Patil of Belagavi, who are said to have confessed to be involved in manufacturing synthetic drug at these unites. The Police are in search of another accused, who is said to be the kingpin behind the network.

The racket was uncovered following an investigation linked to a drug haul in Mumbai on Dec. 21 during which the Police had seized drugs worth Rs. 1.5 crore and arrested a person identified as Abdul Khadir Sheikh.

During the interrogation, Abdul is said to have provided information about drugs manufacturing units in Bengaluru. Based on which Maharashtra Police conducted searches in Bengaluru which led to the arrest of Prashanth Yellappa Patil.

Meanwhile, Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwar claimed that the drug seizure in Bengaluru was a joint operation carried out with Maharashtra ANTF.

When asked about Maharashtra Police's claim that the raids were carried out on their own, Dr. Parameshwar said that the operation was carried out in cooperation with the Karnataka Police based on the inputs provided by Maharashtra Police.

Second Operation

This is the second instance of Maharashtra Police busting a drug unit in Karnataka. On July 26 this year, a similar factory was unearthed at Belavatta in Mysuru, where the Maharashtra Police seized 187.97-kg of mephedrone worth Rs. 381.96 crore and arrested four persons.

Hunsur jewellery heist

Needle of suspicion points to insiders

Mysuru SP N. Vishnuvardhana (extreme left), along with other Police officials, questioning the jewellery shop staff at Hunsur yesterday.

Mysuru, Dec. 29 (RK&BCT)- The daring jewellery store robbery in Hunsur town has left the Police baffled by the ease with which the heist was executed in just six minutes.

Investigators are examining the possibility of insider involvement, given the precise manner in which the robbery was carried out. The incident occurred while the store manager was away at lunch and the showroom staff offered no resistance.

CCTV footage and staff statements reveal that five masked men entered the showroom in two batches — two first, followed by three others — and completed the robbery in six minutes.

Two of the assailants were seen brandishing two revolvers each, while the remaining three carried one revolver each. The weapons were used to intimidate staff as gold and diamond ornaments were looted.

Police have formed four special teams to crack the case, with each team pursuing the investigation from different angles. The robbery took place at 2.10 pm, during the store manager Asgar's regular lunch break between 1.30 pm and 3.30 pm.

Premises relatively secluded

Meanwhile, the store manager has told the Police that the estimated weight of the stolen gold and diamond jewellery is 7.5 kgs, and not 5 to 6 kgs as initially reported. He said, several ornaments had recently arrived from the factory and were yet to be billed and therefore had not been accounted for in the stock records.

During the mahazar at the jewellery showroom, the Police observed that it was the only shop in the building that had been rented out, with all neighbouring shops lying vacant, making the premises relatively secluded.

Investigators also noted the absence of basic security arrangements at the showroom, including the lack of a security guard — an unusual omission for a high-value jewellery outlet. The Police believe this enabled the robbers to enter and execute the heist with ease.

The store manager further told the Police that he chased the robbers on his motorcycle after they exited the showroom, but retreated when the robbers pointed their weapons at him. However, he was reportedly unable to clearly indicate the route taken during the chase.

Gang loots jewellery store

(Continued from page 1)

Stock verification on

Preliminary estimates suggested that the gang looted about 5 to 6 kilograms of gold and diamond jewellery, though the exact quantity will be confirmed after a detailed stock verification.

The robbers had arrived on two motorcycles and had reportedly parked a getaway car about 2 km away. As they fled the showroom, locals pelted stones at them, prompting the gang to fire shots in the air before escaping towards Madikeri. At the time of the incident, the store manager, Asgar, had stepped out for lunch. He attempted to chase the gang on his scooter but retreated after one of the assailants pointed a revolver at him.

Security thin

Police sources said that security deployment in Hunsur was thin as many personnel had been diverted for bandobast duty due to Hanuman Jayanti celebrations in Periyapatna and Harave.

Being a Sunday, most neighbouring shops were closed. Although the showroom typically employs 18-20 staff members, only seven employees were present during the robbery.

The staff informed the Police that the robbers conversed in English and Hindi. The entire incident was captured on CCTV cameras.

Four teams formed

Four special teams have been formed to track down the culprits, and CCTV footage from the showroom and its surrounding areas is being reviewed. A dog squad was also pressed into service.

The showroom, owned by Kerala-based proprietors, was inaugurated on Apr. 27 this year by film actor 'Daali' Dhananjaya.

Senior officers, including DIGP (Southern Range) Dr. M.B. Boralingaiah, Superintendent of Police N. Vishnuvardhana, Additional SPs Nagesh and C. Mallik, Dy.SP Ravi, Hunsur Town Inspector Santosh Kashyap, Sub-Inspectors Jameer Ahmed and Thimmanayaka, Fingerprint Inspector Balasubramanya and ASI Harish Kumar visited the spot and conducted investigations.

'Staff intimidated to make away with gold'

Around 2 pm, a robbery took place at a jewellery showroom in Hunsur when the store manager had stepped out for lunch. Taking advantage of his absence, five robbers arrived on two motorcycles, stormed into the showroom and threatened the staff by pointing revolvers at them. Intimidated, the staff offered no resistance as the gang looted gold and diamond ornaments. The entire incident was captured on CCTV cameras. It is reported that about 5 to 6 kgs of gold and diamond jewellery were stolen. However, the exact quantity will be confirmed after a detailed stock verification.

As the robbers were leaving, someone pelted stones at them. In retaliation, the gang fired shots in the air before fleeing on their motorcycles. It has also come to light that the showroom has four partners in ownership.

— Dr. M.B. Boralingaiah, DIGP (Southern Range)

Check-posts on high alert

Kerala, Madikeri, Mysuru, Hassan routes under Police scanner

Mysuru, Dec. 29 (RK&BCT)- The Police are tracking down the accused and have launched operations based on images of the suspects obtained from CCTV footage.

Each team, headed by an Inspector and comprising five personnel, is working independently to trace the culprits. CCTV footage has clearly captured the faces of the accused and efforts are underway to establish their identities and whereabouts.

Police have also placed all 18 check-posts across Mysuru district on high alert. Investigators suspect that the gang may have escaped towards Kerala after the robbery.

The probe team is also examining the possible involvement of the showroom staff, amid doubts that the crime may have been executed with the help of persons familiar with the establishment.

Witnesses told the Police that the five accused spoke in Hindi. They arrived on motorcycles without number plates, each carrying pistols, stormed into the showroom, looted gold ornaments within minutes, fired shots in the air and fled.

The gang was last seen heading towards Madikeri Road via the Hunsur bypass road. Since the showroom owners are of Kerala origin, the Police believe the accused may have fled in that direction.

Accordingly, one team has moved towards Kerala, another towards Madikeri, a third is conducting searches in and around Mysuru, a fourth has been deployed towards Hassan, while a fifth team is focusing on operations in and around Hunsur.

Police set up Information Kiosks at tourist spots in city

Mysuru, Dec. 29 (RK&DM)- With tourists and visitors arriving in the city in droves during weekends, extended holidays and other Public Holidays throughout the year, the Traffic Police have set up a total of four Tourist Information Kiosks (Centres) in the vicinity of the Palace in the heart of the city, for the benefit of tourists.

The KR Traffic Police have set up three Information Kiosks at Varaha gate (South gate) of the Palace, Gun House Circle and Ramaswamy Circle, while the Devaraja Traffic Police have set up a Kiosk at Balarama gate (North gate) of the Palace. These Kiosks will guide the tourists on tourist spots and other major attractions in the city, Vehicle parking facilities, roads and directions etc. These Kiosks will function as permanent ones, with Police personnel manning them.

Vishwamanava Day in memory of Kuvempu

Chamaraja MLA K. Harishgowda seen offering floral tributes to the portrait of Rashtrakavi Kuvempu placed in front of his statue at the main gate of Manasagangothri campus this morning as University of Mysore (UoM) Vice-Chancellor Prof. N.K. Lokanath, DCP K.S. Sundar Raj and others look on.

MLA T.S. Srivatsa garlanding Poet Laureate Kuvempu's statue on Vishwamanava Double Road this morning in the presence of Kannada Sahitya Parishat President Maddikere Gopal and others.

MLC C.N. Manjegowda showering flower petals on Rashtrakavi Kuvempu's portrait at Kiru Rangamandira here this morning as Prof. C. Naganna, former University of Mysore Prasaranga Director, V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy, Joint Director, Kannada and Culture, Dr. M.D. Sudarshan, Assistant Director and others look on.

Mysuru, Dec.29 (MK&DM)- Vishwamanava Day, marking the 122nd birth anniversary of Poet Laureate Kuvempu, was celebrated under the joint aegis of District Administration, Kannada and Culture Department and Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) at Kiru Rangamandira in Kalamandira premises this morning.

Former Prasaranga (University of Mysore) Director Prof. C. Naganna delivered a special lecture on Rashtrakavi Kuvempu.

Earlier, floral tributes were offered to the portrait of Kuvempu by MLC C.N. Manjegowda, Kannada and Culture Joint Director V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy, Assistant Director Dr. M.D. Sudarshan and others.

Kuvempu birth anniversary was celebrated at other venues across the city including UoM.

Rich tributes were paid to Rashtrakavi Kuvempu at Vishwamanava Day celebration organised by Karnataka State Open University(KSOU) at Cauvery auditorium in Muktagangothri campus along Hunsur Road this morning.

Maharaja's College Kannada faculty Prof. T.K. Kempegowda, who was the chief guest, delivered a special lecture on the legacy of Kuvmepu.

Floral tributes were offered to the portrait of Kuvempu on the occasion.

KSOU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sharanappa V. Halse presided.

KSOU Registrar Prof. N.K. Naveen Kumar, Registrar (Evaluation) Dr. C.S. Anandkumar, Dean (Academic) Prof. M. Ramanatham Naidu, Finance Officer Prof. S. Niranjanraj and others were present.

At BJP Office

Kuvempu Jayanti was also celebrated at the city BJP Office in Chamarajapuram this morning.

Speaking as the chief guest on the occasion, Prof. Paramesh said Kuvempu had advocated that everyone should live as a Vishwamanava and had called upon Kannadigas to read and write in Kannada out of love for our mother-tongue.

Accordingly, we should develop a sense of pride about Kannada as our language of communication and for being a Kannadiga, he said adding that Kuvempu's messages have earned global attention.

City BJP President L. Nagendra, District President K.N. Subbanna, MLA T.S. Srivatsa, party leaders N.V. Phaneesh, Mangala Somashekar and others were present on the occasion.

Hawkers outside Palace evicted

(Continued from page 1)

Several petty shops selling tea, juice and eatables, along with roadside hawkers dealing in stuffed toys, handicrafts, belts and clothes, had mushroomed near Varaha Gate, hampering the smooth movement of tourists entering and exiting the Palace.

Evicted but resurfaced

Although the Police had evicted these vendors a few months ago, they had resurfaced at the same spot, conducting business during the day and covering their goods at night at the same locations.

Following the cylinder blast, a debate erupted over security at the world-famous Mysore Palace, which attracts lakhs of visitors every day. Taking the issue seriously, the city Police, as a precautionary measure, cleared around 50 to 60 petty shops and roadside vendors on Friday.

In addition, pani puri, churmuri and other evening food carts operating around the Palace premises were also removed.

Susceptible to fire

Meanwhile, tourists and members of the public have urged the Police not to succumb to pressure and to ensure strict security cover around Palace.

They have also appealed authorities concerned to clear footpath encroachments along Sayyaji Rao Road. One tourist said that vendors on Sayyaji Rao Road footpath have encroached most of the space, leaving barely enough room for pedestrians to walk, and often pick arguments if passers-by brush against the displayed items.

They also pointed out that most of the clothes sold on the footpath are synthetic and highly inflammable. In the event of a fire, the lack of space could hamper evacuation and even trigger a stampede.

The tourists and public have urged the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) and other authorities to act swiftly.

Abandoned two-wheelers near Varaha Gate

Public concern has also been raised over a motorcycle and a scooter abandoned in the parking lot near Varaha Gate, both of which have been lying unattended for several months.

While the motorcycle has been dumped near the compound's iron grills, the scooter has been left in the middle of the parking area. With no details available about the owners, the public has urged the Police to take immediate action.

Programmes at Dattagalli Sri Mahalakshmi Temple

Mysuru, Dec. 29- The following events have been organised at Sri Mahalakshmi Temple in Kanakadasaranagar (Dattagalli) here:

Dec. 30 - Vaikunta Ekadashi, Vaikunta Dhwara Pravesha; **6 am to 7 am:** Prakarotsava; **7 am to 8 am:** Suprabhata and Stotra Pathana by the members of Godeya Balaga; **10 am to 11 am:** Devaranama by Rajalakshmi and troupe; **11 am to 12 noon:** Devaranama and Kolata by Vidhatri Mahila Samaja; **12 noon to 1 pm:** Gamaka 'Gajendra Moksha' by Uma Nanjundaswamy; **5 pm to 6.30 pm:** Sahasranama Parayana and Devaranama by Lakshmi Bhajana Mandali; **6.30 pm to 8 pm:** Kathak by students of Vidu. Bharti Vitthal, Kalpana School of Dance and Bharatanatyam by students of Champaka Academy.

Jan. 2 - 6.30 pm: Satyanarayana Puja.

Jan. 6 - 6.30 pm: Angakara Sankashtahara Chaturthi.

Jan. 14 - 7 am: Goda Kalyana; **Jan. 15:** Uttarayana Punyakala Starts - Sankranti Festival.

UoM VC inaugurates 'Bhavanotsava'

*University of Mysore (UoM) Vice-Chancellor Prof. N.K. Lokanath, who inaugurated BVB School Annual Day 'Bhavanotsava' at Open Air Theatre in Manasagangothri on Saturday, is seen with (from left) **BVB School Principal S. Lekha Nair, BVB Mysuru Chairman Prof. C. Naganna, Hon. Secretary P.S. Ganapathy and Hon. Treasurer Dr. A.T. Bhashyam. Picture right shows children presenting a dance performance on the occasion.***

Mysuru, Dec. 29- Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (BVB) School, Mysuru, celebrated its Annual Day 'Bhavanotsava' at Open Air Theatre in Manasagangothri here on Saturday.

Inaugurating the celebrations, University of Mysore (UoM) Vice-Chancellor (VC) Prof. N.K. Lokanath said that BVB Mysuru had been serving the educational sector and the society for the past 20 years.

"Parents, instead of concentrating only on marks-based education, must also ensure that their children are provided with culture, moral and knowledge-based education. It is also important to ensure that children actively take part in extra-curricular activities," he added.

On the occasion, R.N. Thanya, who had scored 625 out of 625 marks in SSLC exam, was awarded a cash prize of Rs. 25,000. Bhavan Ramesh (624), G.N. Chinmayi (622), Nishal Nagaraj (621), Meghana R. Prakash (621), C.K. Sangeetha (616), Bhuvan Urs (615), C. Sachin (616) and Y.R. Kushal Gowda (615) were also felicitated.

Later the students presented mesmerising cultural programmes much to the delight of the guests and parents present at the venue.

BVB Mysuru Kendra Chairman Prof. C. Naganna, Hon. Secretary P.S. Ganapathy, Hon. Treasurer Dr. A.T. Bhashyam, BVB School Principal S. Lekha Nair and others were present on the occasion.

ROTARY MIDTOWN ACADEMY, Mysuru, celebrated its annual day on Dec. 23 with the great enthusiasm and participation from students, teachers and parents.

The students showcased cultural diversity and highlighted unity, empathy, collaboration and shared human experiences through their performances.

The celebrations began with lighting of the lamp by chief guest Rtn. H.R. Keshav, Past District Governor (PDG) along with Rtn. Rakesh Babu, President, Rotary Mysore Midtown, Rtn. Bhaskar Sainik, Hon. Secretary, Rotary Mysore Midtown, Rtn. N. Narendrababu, Chairman, Rotary Midtown Academy, Rtn. N. Narendra, Hon. Secretary, Rotary Midtown Academy, Rtn. C.P. Pavithran, Treasurer, Rotary Midtown Academy, School Principal M. Athmananda, Headmistress Sarali and Niveda, teaching, non-teaching staff, students and parents were present at the event.

SRI JAYACHAMARAJENDRA PU COLLEGE, Mysuru, celebrated its Annual Day "Sharadotsava" on Dec. 27 at Kalamandira in city.

K.K. Amarnath, Senior Civil Judge and Member-Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Mysuru District, was the chief guest. Addressing the students, he reminded them of their fundamental duties, including to develop a scientific temper, humanism and a spirit of inquiry, as outlined in our Constitution.

Later students performed the Glory of Karnataka, Yakshagana, Dollu Kunitha, Kodava Dance and many other dances promoting unity and cultural awareness among the audience. Toppers were felicitated.

N. Sachidananda Murthy, Chairman, R. Anand, Secretary, M.A. Jayashree, Trustee, Principal C. Sagar Chakravarthy, Vice-Principal B. Harsha, staff, students and parents attended.

NCC Unit at Pramati

Mysuru Dec.29- The NCC Unit of 16 Karnataka Battalion was inaugurated at Pramati Hillview Academy in city recently by NCC Officers Subedar Captain B.G. Lokesh of the Madras Regiment (Unit 6 Madras) and Havildar M. Vinod of the Maratha Light Infantry (11 Maratha LI).

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) is a premier youth organisation in India, aiming to develop leadership, discipline and a spirit of service among youths.

This Unit in the school will provide inspiration for children to develop leadership qualities and become responsible citizens.

CEO C.S. Sudarshana, Principal V.R. Jaritha and ANOs A.J. Srinivas, Shashikumar and Devika were present.

VIDYA JYOTHI SCHOOL (VJS) AND VIDYA JYOTHI COLLEGE, BANNUR ROAD: ***Most Rt. Rev. Dr. Francis Serrao SJ, the Bishop of Mysuru, who inaugurated the 30th Annual Day, seen with** (from left) **Chethan, Sr. Ruth, Rev. Sr. Alphonsa (Secretary of VJS), Sr. Violet Gretta, Dr. Anil Thomas (Minority Morcha President), Sr. Mary Kutty, Sanjeev V. Kodathe, Nagamma (DDPU, Mysuru), A.M. Emily, Rev. Sr. Theresa (Superior Delegate, Sisters of Somasca), George, Chickajavaraiah, George Francis and Alex.***

Medal winners in Karate

Students of SMK Martial Arts Academy (IMSKA), Mysuru, won total 13 first place, 15 second and 22 third place trophies and emerged as Overall Champions in the recently held 32nd National-level Karate Championship organised by Hanshi N.G. Sivadas at Teresian Indoor Stadium in city.

The prize-winning karatekas are as follows:

FRONT ROW - FROM LEFT: *M. Dishan (Boys - colour belt - 3rd place in Kata - 9 years age category), A. Princy (Girls - colour belt - 3rd in Kata - 8 years), S.L. Preetham (Boys - green belt - 3rd in Kata - 8 years and 1st in Kumite - 18-kg weight category), Dishitha Pathak (Girls - colour belt - 3rd in Kata - 7 years), B. Tanish Raj (Boys - brown belt - 1st in Kata - 8 years & 3rd in Kumite - 25-kg), Mohamed Nuaym (Boys - colour belt - 2nd in Kata - 5 years & 1st in Kumite - 21-kg), Rida Fathima (Girls - colour belt - 1st in Kata - 6 years), Likith Gowda (Boys - colour belt - 3rd in Kata - 8 years), Kartik (Boys - green belt - 1st in Kata - 9 years), K. Vedanshi (Girls - colour belt - 2nd in Kata - 8 years), Owais Qurni (Boys - colour belt - 3rd in Kata - 10 years & 3rd in Kumite - 26-kg), Jairam Behera (Boys - green belt - 3rd in Kata - 10 years).*

MIDDLE ROW - FROM LEFT: *M. Nishanth (Boys - brown belt - 1st in Kata - 13 years age category& 1st in Kumite - 42-kg weight category), Raj Bauri (Boys - brown belt - 3rd in Kata - 12 years & 3rd in Kumite - 33-kg), N. Nandan Nikhil (Boys - colour belt - 1st in Kata - 10 years), A. Grithik Reddy (Boys - colour belt - 3rd in Kata - 7 years), M.P. Yashmitha (Girls - green belt - 3rd in Kata - 10 years), U. Deekshith Gowda (Boys - colour belt - 2nd in Kata - 10 years), Shaik Muhammad Ibrahim (Boys - brown belt - 2nd in Kata - 11 years & 3rd in Kumite - 26-kg), Mavish Sai Reddy (Boys - brown belt - 2nd in Kata - 10 years & 3rd in Kumite - 28-kg), M. Madan (Boys - colour belt - 2nd in Kata - 13 years), M. Saanvi (Girls - colour belt - 1st in Kata - 14 years), V.S. Jwala Anushka (Girls - green belt - 2nd in Kata - 14 years), Sidharth Kumar (Boys - colour belt - 2nd in Kata - 13 years), M. Jeevan (Boys - brown belt - 3rd in Kumite - 61-kg).*

STANDING - FROM LEFT: *Shaik Moinuddin (Boys - green belt - 2nd in Kata - 17 years age category & 3rd in Kumite - 58-kg weight category), N. Harshavardhan (Boys - brown belt - 1st in Kata - 19 years), R. Rohith (Boys - brown belt - 2nd in Kata - 16 years & 2nd in Kumite - 49-kg), Sempai Shankar Prasad (Boys - black belt - 1st in Kata - 15 years), Sempai R.M. Kushal, Sensei Mohamed, Sempai Syed Afaan Ali, Sempai J. Nikhil Britto, Kiranya Reddy (Girls - brown belt - 2nd in Kata - 14 years), A. Bhuvan (Boys - brown belt - 1st in Kata - 17 years), Sri Hari (Boys - brown belt - 3rd in Kata - 14 years age category).*

Kodava Sangha nurturing tomorrow's champions as Indian hockey turns 100

Bengaluru, Dec. 29- As Indian hockey completed a hundred years of inspiring the nation, the Jayanagara Kodava Sangha, Bengaluru, chose to honour the landmark not by looking back alone, but by lighting a path forward — placing children at the centre of its centenary celebrations through a dedicated hockey tournament for young players.

The tournament, organised for boys and girls aged 8 to 13 years, was held on Dec. 21 at Turf City, JP Nagar 7th Phase, offering children an opportunity to experience competitive hockey in a structured, encouraging environment.

Beginning with the historic Olympic gold medal at Amsterdam in 1928, India went on to dominate the world stage, producing legendary figures such as Major Dhyan Chand and claiming eight Olympic gold medals. For decades, hockey was synonymous with national pride, teamwork and excellence — ideals that continue to inspire young athletes today.

The Kodava community of Kodagu, often referred to as the cradle of Indian hockey, has been central to this legacy.

Known for its sporting ethos and strong community bonds, the Kodava contribution to State and National hockey has been both consistent and distinguished. The Jayanagara Kodava Sangha, through this initiative, sought to rekindle that spirit among children.

The tournament was inaugurated by V.R. Raghunath, former Indian international, Olympian and Arjuna Awardee.

He was joined by Kottangada N. Joyappa, Sub-Junior Karnataka player and Kangira Bheemaiah, Chairman of Kodava Samaja Legal Cell, as the guests of honour.

The prize distribution ceremony was attended by Chiriapanda Suresh Nanjappa, President of Kodava Samaja, Bengaluru and Mallengada S. Muthanna, Joint Treasurer.

WORD OF THE DAY

Apropos

Pronunciation: ap-ruh-POH (Preposition)

Meaning: Apropos is used as a preposition to mean "with regard to." It is frequently used in the phrase "apropos of."

Origin: Apropos wears its ancestry like a badge — or perhaps more fittingly a beret. From the French phrase à propos, meaning "to the purpose," the word's emphasis lands on its last syllable, which ends in a silent "s": \ap-ruh-POH\. Apropos typically functions as an adjective describing what is suitable or appropriate ("an apropos comment"), or as a preposition (with or without of) meaning "with regard to," as in "apropos (of) the decision, implementation will take some time." The phrase "apropos of nothing" is used to signal that what follows does not relate to any previous topic.

Example: "Once, at the height of COVID, I dropped off a book at the home of Werner Herzog. I was an editor at the time and was trying to assign him a review, so I drove up to his gate in Laurel Canyon, and we had the briefest of masked conversations. Within 30 seconds, it turned strange. 'Do you have a dog? A little dog?' he asked me, staring out at the hills of Los Angeles, apropos of nothing. He didn't wait for an answer. 'Then be careful of the coyotes,' Herzog said." — Gal Beckerman, The Atlantic, 8 Jan. 2025.

THE ODD WORD

Uakari

Short-tailed, long-haired monkey.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Beat a Dead Horse

Meaning: You use the term 'Beat a Dead Horse' to indicate that some action or ongoing argument is useless.

Origin: The origin of the expression 'beat a dead horse' comes from mid-19th century, when the practice of beating horses to make them go faster was often viewed as acceptable. To beat a dead horse would be pointless, as it wouldn't be able to go anywhere. An early written form of this popular idiom is found in an 1859 issue of the London paper Watchman and Wesleyan Advertiser: "It was notorious that Mr. Bright was dissatisfied with his winter reform campaign and rumor said that he had given up his effort with the exclamation that it was like flogging a dead horse."

Example: "He already told you no; don't beat a dead horse."

QUOTE BOX

One faces the future with one's past. **—American novelist Pearl S. Buck**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: Square Root.

SUDOKU

8	3				6			
		6			9	2		
					3	4		7
		8				7		5
4		3				8		
5		7	1					
		4	6			3		
			4				1	6

Answer to previous puzzle

9	5	8	3	6	2	1	4	7
1	7	6	8	4	5	2	9	3
2	3	4	1	7	9	8	5	6
6	4	9	2	3	1	5	7	8
7	1	2	4	5	8	6	3	9
5	8	3	6	9	7	4	1	2
3	2	7	5	8	4	9	6	1
8	6	5	9	1	3	7	2	4
4	9	1	7	2	6	3	8	5

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

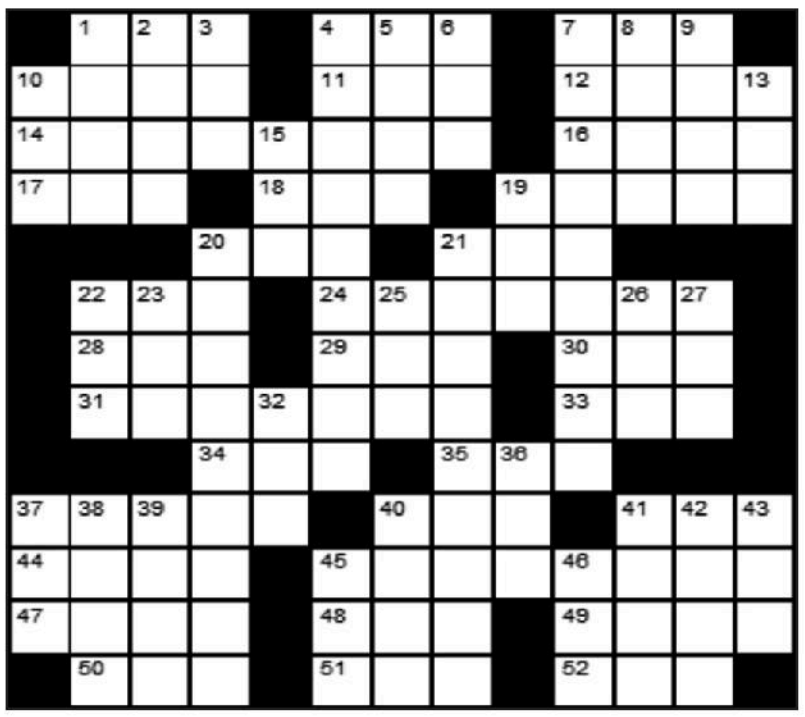
1 Girl or woman colloquially
4 Assoc. of Optical Practitioners
7 Bits Per Second, abbr.
10 Floor coverings
11 Actress Gardner
12 A measured piece of land
14 Took for granted
16 A turnip, in slang usage?
17 Wet and soft earth
18 Transgression
19 Cleopatra's country
20 State of conflict
21 Vidhan sabha member, in short
22 Actress Thurman
24 Moscow's citadel
28 Mona Lisa singer __ King Cole
29 Chinese dynasty
30 Pray for us - ___ pro nobis ?
31 Republic in Northern Europe
33 ___ up : increase in strength or accelerate sharply?
34 Harry Potter's best friend
35 Solid water
37 Navigates the web
40 Popular display technology
41 Please Turn Over
44 ___ Parekh : famous actress of days gone by?
45 Cries of approval (4,4)
47 Remove the outer covering or skin of a fruit
48 Of one's ___ : belonging to oneself?
49 Yes ___ : please give the answer? (2,2)
50 What we Indians eat almost everyday?
51 Eastern daylight-saving time, abbr.
52 Small stocky dog

DOWN

1 Spiritual teacher
2 Elderly or old
3 Lightning Sensor Sys.
4 Rancho in 3 Idiots (5,4)
5 Cooking space
6 Rubber stamp
7 Garden city of India
8 Quarry
9 Leak through
10 Rotational speed, in short
13 Fitting or suitable
15 Superpower nation
19 Type of tree
20 Steep descent of a river
21 A beggar
22 One as a prefix
23 PC alternative
25 Was a candidate
26 Anger
27 Net asset value, abbr.
32 "L" in L.A. the famous city ?
36 Commander, in short ?
37 Plant juice
38 Not as new
39 South America's "ostrich"
40 Vulgar
41 Machu Picchu locale
42 A ringing sound; cause to ring?
43 Spanish gold
45 Weeding implement
46 Leap on one foot

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

T	O	L	A	■	R	C	B	■	D	Y	N	E
A	T	I	T	■	A	H	A	■	R	E	E	L
O	T	O	E	■	M	I	I	■	E	A	R	L
S	O	N	■	B	A	C	K	W	A	R	D	S
■	■	S	O	U	■	■	O	E	M	■	■	■
R	E	D	U	N	D	A	N	T	■	V	A	T
M	E	F	T	■	I	O	U	■	D	A	D	O
S	E	N	■	S	C	A	R	E	C	R	O	W
■	■	■	S	I	T	■	■	C	I	A	■	■
C	O	N	T	R	A	L	T	O	■	N	W	S
L	E	A	R	■	T	E	A	■	T	A	E	L
A	N	S	I	■	O	A	K	■	O	S	S	A
N	E	A	P	■	R	N	A	■	P	I	T	Y



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

BVQEVQF NE'J WIFFNIDQ CF YSJNLQJJ, HIENQLRQ

NJ EVQ ANFJE FSPQ CA JSRRQJJ.

TODAY'S CLUE: J EQUALS S

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: Many persons have a wrong idea of what constitutes true happiness. It is not attained through self-gratification but through fidelity to a worthy purpose.

SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  Mark (K) - 5 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Mark (K) (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  45 (K) - 3 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  45 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  The Devil (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**
  The Devil (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  Vrusshabha (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Kantara: A Legend Chapter - 1 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Mob: 98863-25207**
  Dhurandhar (H) - 3 Shows

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422 4241800

Mark (K)	(S-1)	6.30 am
	(S-2)	6.30 am
	(S-3)	6.30 am
	(S-4)	6.30 am, 10 am, 1 pm, 4 pm, 7 pm,
Dhurandhar (H)	(S-1)	10 am, 6.05 pm, 10.05 pm
Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	(S-1)	2.10 pm
	(S-2)	9.35 am
45 (K)	(S-2)	1.30 pm
	(S-3)	4.10 pm
	(S-4)	10 pm
Sirai (Ta)	(S-2)	4.35 pm
Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri (H)	(S-2)	7.20 pm
Champion (Te)	(S-2)	10.15 pm
The Devil (K)	(S-3)	12.50 pm
Anaconda (E)	(S-3)	7.15 pm
Sarvam Maya (Ma)	(S-3)	9.45 pm

MOVIES AT MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 2973519

45 (K)	:	10.15 am, 1.15 pm, 4.10, 7.05 pm, 10 pm
Vrusshabha (Ma)	:	11 am
Avatar: Fire and Ash (K)	:	12.20 pm, 6.10 pm
Mark (K)	:	1 pm, 4 pm, 6.50 pm, 9.45 pm
The Devil (K)	:	1.35 pm
Anaconda (E)	:	4.05 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	4.50 pm, 9.15 pm
Sarvam Maya (Ma)	:	9.50 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Dhurandhar (H)	:	8.10 am, 11.50 am, 3.30 pm 6.05 pm, 10.30 pm
Mark (K)	:	8.45 am, 9.55 am, 12.40 pm 4.05 pm, 6.50 pm, 10.15 pm
Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	:	9.10 am, 3.25 pm, 9.40 pm
Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri (H)	:	9.30 am, 3.05 pm, 10.20 pm
45 (K)	:	9.35 am, 12.25 pm, 3.45 pm 7.10 pm, 9.55 pm
Champion (Te)	:	12.30 pm
Anaconda (E)	:	1.10 pm, 7.25 pm
The Devil (K)	:	3.55 pm
Sarvam Maya (Ma)	:	7.20 pm
Vrusshabha (Ma)	:	7.45 pm
Sirai (Ta)	:	10.25 pm

MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

45 (K)	:	9.05 am, 12.10 pm, 7.15 pm 10 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	9.05 am, 3.10 pm, 5.55, 10.30 pm
Mark (K)	:	9.05 am, 12.05 pm, 2.50 pm 7.25 pm, 10.10 pm
Anaconda (E)	:	9.35 am, 4.45 pm
Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri (H)	:	11.50 am, 7 pm
The Devil (K)	:	1.20 pm
Avatar: Fire and Ash (E-3D)	:	3.15 pm, 10.20 pm

EVENTS TODAY (DEC. 29)

- **Mysore Palace Board:** Flower Show, Palace premises, **up to 9 pm;** Palace illumination, **7 pm to 9 pm.**
- **KSRTC Mysuru City Division Kannada Kriya Samiti, Mysuru:** Kannada Rajyotsava and *Rashtrakavi* Kuvempu's birth anniversary celebrations, Transport & Muzrai Minister Ramalinga Reddy inaugurates, District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa presides; Musical evening by Nandakumar & troupe of Sanju Melodies, Kuvempunagar Bus Stand, **5 pm.**
- **Karnataka Sugama Sangeetha Parishat:** *Rashtrakavi* Kuvempu's and Dr. C. Ashwath's birth anniversary, 'Mareyalagada Mahaniyaru', ADC Dr. P. Shivaraju inaugurates, Kannada & Culture Joint Director V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy and Journalist Amshi Prasanna Kumar chief guests, Parishat Mysuru District Unit President Dr. Nagaraj V. Bairy will be present, Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha, JLB Road, **5 pm.**
- **Sri Lakshminarasimhaswamy Temple of Melukote Yadugiri Yatiraj Mutt, Mysuru Branch:** Dhanurmasoa Puja, Temple premises, Jayalakshmipuram, **5.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust, Mysuru:** Karnatak classical vocal concert by Vidu. M.R. Sudha, accompanied by Vid. Venkatesha Josyer on violin, Vid. G.S. Ramanujam on mridanga and Vid. V.S. Ramesh on morching, Veene Seshanna Bhavana, Ganabharathi, Kuvempunagar, **6 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (DEC. 30)

- **Sri Lakshminarasimhaswamy Temple of Melukote Yadugiri Yatiraj Mutt, Mysuru Branch:** Dhanurmasa Puja, Temple premises, Jayalakshmipuram, **5.30 am to 10 am & 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Sri Datta Venkateshwara Temple, Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Ashram:** Vaikunta Ekadashi, opening of Uttara Dwara (North Entrance) of the temple for darshan, Ashram premises, **5.30 am to 2.30 pm and 3 pm to 9 pm.** [Ph: 0821- 2483200]
- **International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) - Mysuru, Jayanagar:** Sri Vaikunta Ekadashi, Vaikunta Dwara Pravesha for devotees, ISKCON Mysuru temple, Jayanagar, **7.30 am to 10 pm.**
- **Mysore Palace Board:** Winter Festival - Flower Show, Palace premises, **10 am to 9 pm;** Palace illumination, **7 pm to 9 pm.**
- **Sree Nataraja English Medium High School:** 27th Annual Day celebrations, Sree Nataraja Pratishtana President Sri Chidananda Swamiji graces the occasion, BEO South Krishna chief guest, University of Mysore Finance Officer K.S. Rekha delivers valedictory address, Pratishtana Special Officer Prof. S. Shivarajappa presides, Sree Nataraja High School Head Mistress H.G. Mamatha will be present, Sree Nataraja Auditorium, **4 pm.**
- **Sadhana Mandira:** Special training sessions to perform simple and diligent Saraswati Puja by Swami Hamsananda, Sri Venkateshwara Devasthanam, Siddartha Layout, **4 pm to 4.45 pm;** Balamuri Vinayaka Devasthanam, Siddartha Layout, **5.15 pm to 6 pm;** Geetha Shishu Shikshana Sangha (GSSS), T. Narasipur Road, Siddartha Layout, **6.30 pm to 7.15 pm.**

MOVIES AT MALL OF MYSORE

Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri (H)	:	9 am, 4.15 pm
45 (K)	:	9.05 am, 11.55 am, 7.15 pm, 10.20 pm
Mark (K)	:	9.35 am, 9.40 am, 4.50 pm 6.55 pm, 10.10 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	12.10 pm, 6.25 pm, 10.30 pm
Anaconda (E)	:	12.40 pm, 7.55 pm
Avatar: Fire and Ash (E)	:	12.50 pm
Avatar: Fire and Ash (E-3D)	:	2.55 pm, 10 pm
The Devil (K)	:	3 pm

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

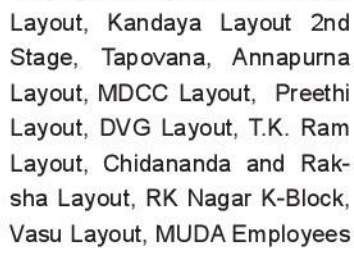
Mark (K)	:	9.15 am, 3.20 pm, 7.05 pm, 10.10 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	9.20 am, 12.45 pm, 6.25, 10.30 pm
45 (K)	:	9.40 am, 12.10 pm, 7.15 pm, 10.15 pm
Anaconda (E)	:	9.55 am, 4.50 pm
Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri (H)	:	12.20 pm, 7.15 pm
Mindiyum Paranjum (Ma)	:	1.25 pm
Avatar: Fire and Ash (E-3D)	:	3.15 pm, 10.20 pm
Vrusshabha (Ma)	:	4.30 pm

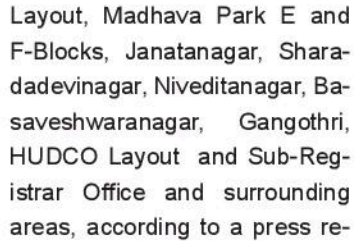
NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

No power supply tomorrow

Mysuru, Dec. 29- As Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC) has taken up its 3rd quarterly maintenance works at RK Nagar Power Distribution Centre, there will be no power supply tomorrow (Dec. 30) between 10 am and 6 pm in the following areas:

Tonachikoppal, Harihara Hotel, Amma Complex, New Kantharaj Urs Road, Aravindnagar, Kuvempunagar M, N & K-Blocks, KHB Colony, Aniketana Road, Paduvana Road, Saraswathipuram 1st to 4th Main Road, Vishwamanava Double Road, Panchamantra Road, M-Block Library, Panduranga Temple, Vivekanandanagar, EWS Ganapathy Temple, Canara Bank, B.G.S Balajagath School, SBM Colony, Shiva Temple, Surya Layout, Nimishamba Layout, Kandayanagar 3rd Stage, Giriyappa Ningegowda Layout, Mahalingeshwara Temple, Kabini Layout, SMS School Layout, Hamsa Layout 1st Stage, Gagana Shekar Layout, Huli Narayanappa Layout, Bhavya Bharati Layout, MDCC Bank Employees Layout, T.K. Studio Layout, Kandaya Layout 2nd Stage, Tapovana, Annapurna Layout, MDCC Layout, Preethi Layout, DVG Layout, T.K. Ram Layout, Chidananda and Raksha Layout, RK Nagar K-Block, Vasu Layout, MUDA Employees Layout, Madhava Park E and F-Blocks, Janatanagar, Sharadadevinagar, Niveditanagar, Basaveshwaranagar, Gangothri, HUDCO Layout and Sub-Registrar Office and surrounding areas, according to a press release from CESC Executive Engineer, VV Mohalla Division.





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